



# Mrs. Ferguson's Newsletter

August 22, 2006

## Welcome Back

**Southside High  
School**

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### Reminder:

- \* English Notebook is due August 28, 2006.
- \* First Vocabulary test is September 1, 2006.
- \* Open House is September 18
- \* Remember: No late work accepted!

### Student to Student Success Tips from Pre-AP Students



- Keep up with assignments
- Be prepared for class
- Take notes during class all of the time. Don't wait for the teacher to tell you to do it.
- If you don't study, you will fail.
- Develop good study habits.
- Learn to organize your time.
- Don't procrastinate. It only makes things worse.
- You really have to read the books to pass English.
- Be prepared to read a lot. You must learn to think and analyze what you read.
- Read the book. Read the whole book. (Renting the movie will only mess you up.)
- Don't whine. It doesn't help.
- Buy your own copies of novels and take notes as you read.
- Don't take a Pre-AP class if you aren't willing to work.
- If you are willing to work, the teachers are willing to work with you.
- Do things right the first time. Follow directions.
- Listen! Listen! Listen! Think! Think! Think!
- Write everything down. You will forget otherwise.
- Know your goals. Don't be swayed by people who have none.

Expect a challenge,

accept the challenge,

meet the challenge.

## **Southside High School**

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**We're on the Web!**

<http://www.fssc.k12.ar.us/>

Go to "Students and  
Schools" and click on  
"School Website" to find  
Southside

### **EXPECTATIONS**

**What you can expect from me:**

- **Quality instruction each day**
- **Extra help**
- **A positive learning environment**
- **Credit for your practice and grades for evaluation of your learning**
- **Respect for you and your learning**
- **Fairness**
- **I will give my best each day**

### **Student Expectations**

**What I expect from you:**

- **Come to class each day ready to work and learn**
- **Bring necessary books and supplies every day**
- **Have assignments neatly and fully completed**
- **Follow the posted rules and procedures**
- **Have a positive attitude**
- **Always try your best**
- **Listen and pay attention**



## Something About Me

### Profile

- Magna Cum Laude graduate from the University of the Ozarks, 1988
- Associate of Arts from Westark Community College, 1986
- State Certification in Business Education and in English
- 13 years teaching experience
- Married for 22 years
- 2 children, James 18, UAFS Freshman; Jessica, 15, Southside Sophomore



## Vocabulary

- Vocabulary tests will be given every other Friday.
- Vocabulary worksheets are due the day of the Vocabulary test. Make sure you work for accuracy when completing the Vocabulary packets!
- Literature selections include vocabulary! Don't overlook the lists with each reading selection.



### Vocabulary Tips!

- Study! Don't wait the night before the test to begin studying.
- Complete the worksheets.
- Make flashcards for each word with the word on one side and the definition on the flip side. Carry the cards with you and study as time allows.
- Study the synonym and antonym of the word and be ready to use the word in context.

### General Tips:

Regular attendance is crucial to your academic success. Absences are a major reason for low grades!

Cheating in any way is unacceptable. Cheating includes copying homework, cheating on tests or quizzes, and discussing test questions with students in different class periods.

Good handwriting is expected on all work. Illegible handwriting on assignments will earn no credit. Legibility is determined by the reader.

## Reading

The first nine weeks will be filled with reading short story selections.

### Reading Tips:

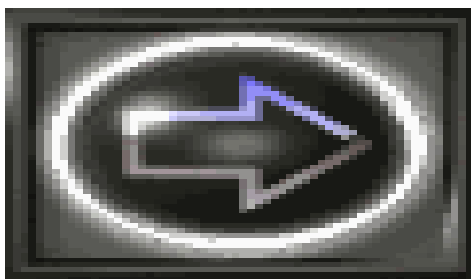
- Read every assignment. Don't get behind!
- Read for understanding. Make notes as you read.
- Summarize what you read.



- Paraphrase ideas
- Make inferences
- Understand cause and effect
- Analyze and interpret text
- Make predictions
- Determine the writer's purpose
- Compare and contrast text
- Draw conclusions

## Supplies

Don't forget to have your English Notebook in class by Monday!!!



- Notebook Binder
- Four divider pages labeled: Daily Grammar, Homework, Vocabulary, Notes
- One Three-pronged durable folder
- Wide-ruled, loose-leaf notebook paper
- Post-it notes; highlighter



### Mrs. Ferguson's Schedule

1st Period: Pre-AP Sophomore English

2nd Period: Planning Period

3rd — 7th Period: Regular Sophomore English

Lunch: A Lunch

Need Help?

I am available before and after school.

### Contact Information

E-mail:

oferguso@fortsmithschools.org

School Phone:

646-7371

### Bell Schedule

1st Period---- 8:10 - 9:00

2nd Period---- 9:05 - 10:05

3rd Period--- 10:10 - 11:00

4th Period--- 11:05 - 11:55

5th Period (A LUNCH) 11:55 - 12:25---(CLASS) 12:30 - 1:20

5th Period (CLASS) 12:00 - 12:50---(B LUNCH) 12:50 - 1:20

6th Period---- 1:25 - 2:15

7th Period---- 2:20 - 3:10